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The Independent

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1899.

LOCAL BREVITIES.

From Friday's Daily.

Marriage license issued Feb. 17: Byron E. Walker and Alice G. Baker. Log hauling must soon cease or become an uninviting job unless the roads get better.

Chas. Kensei was able to be on the streets again yesterday. He has been confined for over five weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Bancroft of Pittsburg have stopping in this city several days on their way to the Pacific coast.

Miss Ida Schultheis was called to Lima, Ohio, yesterday on account of the death of a relative, Mrs. W. Schultheis. Mr. Schultheis went to the above city today.

Wm. Hahn of Ogden, Ill., has been visiting relatives in Plymouth and in various other parts of the county for the past month. He left for his home today.

Mrs. Ed Gardner, who has been quite sick at the home of her parents in this city, left today for her home in Elkhart. She has regained most of her lost strength.

George W. Kline, a soldier of the war of '98, has been the guest of his relatives, Jerry Blain and family, for the past few days. He returned home today to Van Wert, Ohio.

Senator Winfield's bill requiring railroad companies to employ at least one brakeman on all passenger trains, and two on freight trains has been favorably acted upon by the senate.

The jail has been empty since Jan. 20. On account of there having been no fire within the cold weather, the walls are covered with frost, which sparkles like silver and is a beautiful sight.

A Muncie dispatch states that "Jack" Glenn died Monday evening from the effects of excessive drinking. He recently boasted that he had been intoxicated for 12 years. He was a saloon-keeper and owned High street theater.

The Ladies' society of the German Evangelical church met with Mrs. L. A. Kloefer Feb. 16, and elected the following officers: President, Mrs. J. Birkhold; Vice-president, Mrs. Kuhn; Secretary, Mrs. L. A. Kloefer; Treasurer, Mrs. J. Hoham.

Twin Lakes has a new musical organization in the form of a string band. It is hardly a month old as yet but shows signs of being something select and high classed. The boys are to be given a reception at the residence of Bill Murphy in the country this evening.

A farmer in the Terre Haute Gazette asks this question: "Why should it not be a better plan for a township trustee to meet annually with his constituents to consult them as the wants of the township in his charge than to meet a thousand township trustees of the state and all the school supply and road supply men on earth?"

Yesterday afternoon, Miss Grace Estes dropped her pocketbook while doing some shopping in the downtown part of the city. It was immediately seized upon by a bystander. Miss Estes called the marshal and pointed out the man whom she supposed had taken it. The man suspected was a prominent farmer and was probably accused unjustly. The pocketbook has not yet been regained. It contained about two dollars.

Herman, aged 6 years, a son of Geo. Lemler, living two miles north of Bourbon, was taken with a severe pain in his left ankle joint about the middle of last September, followed by great swelling, which continued for three weeks, when an opening was made at the inner side spontaneously, giving exit to a large quantity of pus, much to the relief of the boy. Some pain and discharge have continued however, and on yesterday afternoon the patient was brought to Plymouth, when an opening was made by a surgeon and five or six pieces of exfoliated bone removed, by which relief is expected to follow.

places, and \$3,000 worth of checks and drafts scattered around. How much money was taken can not be ascertained.

Glass-blowing machines will be introduced in the McBeth lamp due factory at Anderson. Means 200 men out of employment.

Frank Nolton, Columbus, swallowed his false teeth. He was soon in spasms from pain and fright, but surgical instruments removed the obstacle.

The new string band at Twin Lakes is now made up of the following pieces: Two mandolins, two guitars, four violins, one base viol. The boys are already doing some smart playing.

Deiterich natural gas syndicate, Peru, which controls 90 per cent. of Indiana gas, has offered to turn the management over to a citizens' committee to verify the statement that the present supply is short.

Last evening while climbing to the loft of a boat-house, at Pretty lake, Daniel Long fell upon the ice and cut a gash upon his brow. The skin on the forehead was loosened so that it hung down over his eye to the cheek bone. The wound is receiving proper attention.

George Shock, of Bremen, and father of William Shock of the Independent force, received a draft for \$200 on last Monday from the Knights of the Macabees as a disability claim, which amount he will receive every year for ten years. This will be quite an assistance to Mr. Shock as he is not able to do any work.

The Winona Reading Circle conducted a profitable and pleasant discourse on Sallust, Ovid and Caesar last Saturday evening at the home of Miss Mary Southworth. Three other authors, following in the order of the text have been assigned for next meeting, which will take place two weeks hence at the residence of Mrs. Dickey.

This morning news came of the death of Edwin Partridge, one of the oldest and best known citizens of Fulton county. He was 84 years old, and his death, though attributed to old age, may be traced to a stroke of paralysis received years ago. Mrs. A. R. Underwood and Mrs. Dickson Thompson, who are his relatives, went to Tiosa on the morning train. The funeral has been announced for tomorrow at 1:30 p. m.

An Old Stradivarius Recovered.

After searching for eleven years, Dr. S. U. Tarney, of Auburn, Ind., has again come in possession of his 163-year-old violin. The instrument was loaned eleven years ago, the borrower dying a few days after, and the instrument was never returned. The doctor has since kept watch on all violins and yesterday succeeded in trading a young man out of this particular one, which he remembered by certain cracks in the top and by the inscription "Stradivarius, Anno Domini 1736," pasted in the bottom. Mr. Tarney's violin was brought from Germany twenty-five years ago by Dr. Roscoff.

Broom Corn and Monopolies.

We have said that the corner on broom corn has been brought about by a concentrated move on the part of large manufacturers with a view to shutting off small ones.

The Broom Corn Review for January, 1899, comes to the rescue of this monopolizing class and says: "The newspapers from Maine to California and from the Lakes to the Gulf have published broadcast the news of a corner on broom corn," and then makes an evasive effort to deny this. But while it is trying to pull the blanket down on this side to cover up, it raises it up on the other side and shows what is under it. A few quotations from the same paper, same issue, will show this. Speaking about those dealers in broom corn who will sell by the car load to some, then sell six, eight or ten bales to another man who is not able to buy by the car load, it says: "It is a mystery to the writer why some of our large buyers and dealers will place an order with a broker who will do this double-faced act when they could just as advantageously place their orders with reputable brokers who will not resort to the infamous practice. We hope the day is not far distant when we shall see this class of traders passed by, and those who do not follow this practice grow fat from the trade which ought to be theirs. The review has a goodly list of the best people in the trade, who have pledged themselves to throw their business to those whom they have proof do not do this sort of business, and we hope to see the list grow until it includes every car-load buyer in the trade."

Speaking about their present prospects, with small manufacturers shut off, it says: "One commendable feature is, the cut-throat shops will no longer be in it."

With these favorable indications for large manufacturers and dealers, it breaks out again, as follows: "The Review congratulates the manufacturers on the present favorable outlook and hopes they will take advantage of it and enjoy a year of unusual prosperity."

Certainly, certainly! We think this will be no financial calamity to that class—the class that is in it. Such outspoken advocacy in favor of trusts and a favored few, I have seldom seen.

D. W. ALBERT.

TALKED WITH GHOST

WEIRD TALE OF MURDER AND A VISITATION FROM ANOTHER WORLD.

Harrowing Experience of Gabriel Fickle, of Thornhope—Solemn Vow Imposed by the Uncanny Visitor.

Thornhope, a little village between Plymouth and Logansport, is all agog over a remarkable ghost story, the details of which were made public Sunday. The most uncanny feature of the affair is the peculiar action of the ghost in binding to secrecy for a certain period the man who is the only person who has held converse with it. At last time has absolved the oath and the facts in the case have been related. In the fall of '95, John Baer, a stockbuyer, established headquarters at Thornhope and engaged extensively in the purchase and sale of stock. He was frequently known to have large sums of money in his possession, but he scoffed at the idea of possible robbery. He lived with John Wildermuth and on Feb. 16, 1898, he prepared to go to Star City and arrange for the shipment of a carload of cattle. He had \$3,000 in cash on his person to pay for the stock and before starting to Star City he started to walk to the residence of John Steele, a mile south of Thornhope, to procure a heavy overcoat he had left there a few days previously. That was the last ever seen of Baer. He failed to reach Steele's and the only clue to the mysterious affair was advanced by Gabriel Fickle, a warm friend of Baer and a resident of Thornhope to this day. Fickle and others heard pistol shots shortly after Baer failed to return to Wildermuth's. Fickle associated his disappearance with the shots, but a close search failed to disclose any trace of the missing man and in a few months it came to be generally believed that he was foully murdered for his money. Two men were suspected but there was no evidence against them and no arrests were made. Near the water, midway between Thornhope and Steele's, was an abandoned well close to the bank of Indian Creek, and a few years after the disappearance of Baer, some school children who were fishing in the creek hooked shreds of clothing and an old boot out of the well. The circumstances of this find were given no consideration by the children's parents, but in the light of recent developments it suggests the truth of a weird and ghastly story of murder.

Gabriel Fickle is responsible for the present disturbed condition of Thornhope people in his solemn avowal that he saw and talked with the ghost of John Baer on the night of Feb. 16, 1898, the thirtieth anniversary of the disappearance of Baer. Fickle explains his silence that he was bound to secrecy by an oath under conditions that would have driven many men stark mad. February 16, 1899, removed the seal from his lips and he unburdened himself of a strange account that cannot be disbelieved coming as it does from a man whose standing is unquestioned. His startling tale is substantially to the effect that on the night of Feb. 16, 1898, as he was returning from Royal Center to his home via the railroad he dimly descried a form approaching as he neared the old water tank. The figure was walking slowly and as Fickle approached it stopped in front of him. Fickle crossed to the other side of the track and the figure did likewise at the same time extending a hand and exclaiming, "Why Gabe, don't you know me." Fickle replied negatively, and put forth his hand to shake hands with the friendly stranger when to his horror he found himself grasping thin air, although in other respects the apparition was life like. Before Fickle could make an effort to speak the spectre further frightened him by continuing, "I am the ghost of John Baer, murdered on this spot thirty years ago tonight." Fickle declares he was seized with the most abject fear. His hair stood on end, his throat was parched and strive as he would not a sound came from his lips. He tottered past the vision of the dead, but the latter followed, conjuring him not to be afraid and finally Fickle retained his courage sufficiently to ask how Baer met his death. The ghost then told of the foul murder naming as his assassins two men still living, binding Fickle to never reveal the names or tell of his meeting with the ghost until one year from that time. A request for another interview was also made but a compliance was not authoritatively imposed. The ghost detailed minutely the circumstances of the murder. The gruesome recital ended near the abandoned well, and "This is where they put me," said the ghost stepping into the opening and sinking into its dark depths. Quaking in mortal terror Fickle ran homeward and for days his peculiar actions occasioned comment. He was tempted to tell of his singular adventure, but the admonition to keep silent was not to be forgotten. For a year he kept the secret and then unable to longer forbear, he told of the turn he experienced in meeting Baer's ghost. On one thing only is he silent and that is in regard to the identity of the murderers. Some night soon he proposes to return to the old tank at night to find if the

vision will again appear. Every man in Thornhope believes every word of Fickle's experience. Not a man has the courage to seek an interview with the ghost and the haunted spot is shunned like the plague. Fickle is one of the most respected citizens in the village. He enjoys the confidence of everybody any is in no sense an idle talker. He is much averse to discussing the affair. He does not believe in ghosts, is not at all superstitious but says the memory of that fateful night will haunt him to his dying day. He does not attempt to explain the occurrence, it is beyond his understanding. He is positive that the end is not yet and that he will sooner or later be impelled to visit the scene of the crime and submit to another clasp of that shadowy hand from another world.

Lapaz Items.

The epidemic of the grip has slackened in this district, giving the physicians a rest.

After March 1 Dr. Chas. F. Holtzendorff's address will be Plymouth; Lapaz on Saturdays.

About 11 o'clock Sunday night Milton White's house was discovered to be on fire by his daughter, Bertie. The damage amounted to \$50.

Johnson & Myers and Johnson & Burger expect to ship about four carloads of cattle this week.

Miss Ida Seiler of Bremen is the guest of Mate Gontier this week.

Trustee Shirland has moved into the second store of the building occupied by Dr. Fuson.

Mabel, the youngest daughter of Mr. Newton Nye is on the sick list.

Mrs. I. Sluss and Miss Mate Gontier are still confined to their beds, though both are somewhat improved.

Mr. Adrain Gontier has purchased a roadster of Gus Weiner.

Mr. William Kiley has had an attack of grip, but is somewhat better.

Mr. Kanaar found three horses wandering along the road.

The masquerade at the Lapaz hall was a success Wednesday evening. There were many persons present from a distance.

Otto Platz, who accidentally had his left hand mangled by a shotgun, is rapidly improving.

Resolutions of Condolence.

Whereas, In his all-wise providence the Most High has seen fit to remove the Rev. W. O. Lattimore from the scene of his earthly labors and from the midst of his active, personal friendships.

Whereas, Such sad event has touched our sensibilities and deeply awakened our sympathies.

Whereas, Realizing that in his death the cause of Presbyterianism has lost an able champion, the gospel of Christ an earnest and faithful minister, and the friends of morality and the public good a strong character and efficient co-worker; and

Whereas, Deeming it but just and proper that fitting notice be taken of and a due estimate be placed upon such traits of character, therefore

Resolved, That the boards of the First Presbyterian church of this city have received with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of the Rev. W. O. Lattimore, for so long time pastor of the church above mentioned.

Resolved, That the pastor and boards of said Presbyterian church will in this manner manifest their respect for the memory of the deceased and their deepest sympathy with his bereaved family.

Resolved, That these resolutions be read at the morning service and in the Sunday-school Feb. 19, 1899, that they be communicated to his two daughters residing at Evanston, Ill., and to the newspapers of this city.

Signed by PASTOR, ELDERS, TRUSTEES OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Indiana Notes.

Fruit reported destroyed in the Ohio river belt.

Citizens of Laporte will make a legal fight against a Chicago ice company for cutting ice on Stone lake. The question is how far the rights of the parties who own property abutting the lake extend.

New Odd Fellows lodge been instituted at Anderson. Oscar Roberts is wanted at Noblesville for forging a check for \$100.

Public Sale.

Calvin H. Marsh will sell at public auction his stock and farming implements at his residence on the Deline farm in West township, 1/4 miles south of the Dunkard church on Tuesday, Feb. 28, '99. The sale commences at 10 o'clock. ldlw

Same via Washington.

Fares to Philadelphia and New York over Pennsylvania Lines. Tickets to Philadelphia and New York over the Pennsylvania Lines do not cost any more via Washington than via direct route of the Pennsylvania System. Ten days' stop-over at the National Capital may be enjoyed by passengers via Washington, and those holding tickets may enjoy an additional ten days' stop-over at Philadelphia. For rates, time of trains, and other particulars apply to nearest Ticket Agent of the Pennsylvania Lines, or address W. W. Richardson, District Passenger Agent, Indianapolis, Ind. Feb28

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Does Your Family Need Shoes?

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Public Sale!

Notice is hereby given that we will sell at Public Sale at our place of business, on West Jefferson street, between Lake Erie and Vandallia Railroads, every 313 days out of every year, the following property: "Standard" and "Proof Skin Farm Wagons, all sizes, at a very low price, with one year guarantee attached to every wagon. Farmer's Handy Wagon, best on the market, \$5.00. We furnish all kinds of Vehicle Wheels at living prices. We are builders of City Trucks, Delivery Wagons, Milk Wagons, Piano and Organ Wagons; in fact, we feel safe in saying that we can fill all orders in our line of business, as we employ only expert workmen. We do no piece work, but employ all our mechanics by the day, which assures the best workmanship. All kinds of painting and trimming done at a very low price. Our painting is all brush work; we do no dipping. We do general repairing. Four new shoes (best) \$1.00. Satisfaction guaranteed. Call, be convinced.

Hill & Ringgenberg.

Proprietors of Plymouth Wagon Works, West Jefferson Street, Plymouth, Ind.

In connection with our place of business I have opened up an Exchange Mill. I have placed in a full set of feed grinders. I am prepared to grind all kinds of Feed and Corn Meal. Farmers, bring me your wheat. I will give you flour in exchange. I handle nothing but first grade of flour.

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\$2.75 BOX RAIN COAT

A REGULAR \$5.00 WATERPROOF RAINCOAT FOR \$2.75.
Send No Money. Cut this ad. out and send to us, and we will send you a state your height and weight, state number of inches around body at breast taken over vest under coat close up under armpits, and we will send you this coat to express, C. O. D., subject to examination; examine and try it on at your nearest express office and if found exactly as represented and the most wonderful value you ever saw or heard of and equal to any coat you can buy for \$5.00, pay the express agent, our special offer, \$2.75, and express charges. THIS RAINCOAT is latest 1899 style, made from heavy waterproof, tan color, genuine Dura-Cloth extra long, double-breasted, Sargent velvet collar, fancy plaid lining, waterproof sewed, strapped and cemented seams, suitable for both rain or snow, and guaranteed greatest value ever offered by us or any other house. For Free Club Samples of Men's Raincoats, write to \$5.00, and Made-to-Measure Suits and Overcoats at from \$5.00 to \$10.00, write for Free Book No. 900. Address: BEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO, ILL. (Bears, Roebuck & Co. are thoroughly reliable.—Editor.)